

DON'T FORGET

- Up-to-date A-Z map or Google maps.
- Some of the churches on the route may provide refreshments.
- A snack or picnic lunch or visit local cafes.
- We walk whatever the weather.
- Look for things to pray about as you walk.
- Start anywhere at any time; your first checkpoint will be open from 9am onwards and your last will close at 5pm.
- Get your map stamped at each checkpoint.
- Use the quiz sheet to draw your attention to points of interest along the way.
- Take time to learn about the churches you visit and about Unlock.

Please work with us to ensure that the **2025** walk generates more income to fund Unlock's vital work. You can do this by:

Seriously & prayerfully consider how you can support Unlock's ongoing work.

Sponsorship – get as many sponsors as you can, by explaining to them what you are raising money for; and ensure that they gift aid their sponsorship wherever possible.

Promoting Unlock's work in your church or area
Put up a display in your church, or write something for your church magazine.

Bring along some friends - encourage new people to join you for an Unlock London Walk experience in **2025**.

Through your Church – persuade your church to give funds to support Unlock as part of its regular missionary giving.

Donations – you can make a personal donation to Unlock's work, either on a one off basis, or better yet, at regular intervals.

The aims of the Unlock London Walk are:

- **To raise money for Unlock's work in deprived urban areas across the UK.**
- **To raise awareness of the issues of exclusion that Unlock exists to address.**
- **To showcase the ministry of churches in urban areas. Come and see what God is doing in the city.**
- **To encourage churches in more affluent parts of the country to support the work of their fellow Christians in the inner city.**
- **To give 100s of people an opportunity for an unusual and enlightening day out in London.**

Unlock works by running local projects in UK cities, where a trained Unlock Development Worker, accompanied by a local team, is employed to encourage and enable local people and their leaders to grow in faith and confidence by:

UNLOCKING REAL LIFE STORIES OF URBAN PEOPLE
REVEALING GOOD NEWS OF THE DOWN TO EARTH CHRIST
RELEASING LIFE CHANGING SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE



Registered Charity: 313454

Donations from the 2024 walk have raised over £25,000. In a difficult economic climate this is a great testament to the commitment of our faithful band of walk supporters, and we really appreciate it. However, we must not be complacent and Unlock needs your support more than ever. Unlock relies heavily on income from the Unlock London walk to fund our work. Because we are directly engaged in Christian Mission it is very difficult to secure other types of funding. So please keep up the momentum and do all you can to maximise the returns from the 2025 Walk. Unlock local projects are making a real difference, bringing the gospel to people that the churches haven't been able to reach; and there's more we can deliver if we have the resources!

MAKING YOUR DONATION COUNT EVEN MORE

Donating on-line saves Unlock valuable staff time and money and is quick and easy to do via:

Give as You Live Donate

If you want a quicker simpler way to solicit and collect your Unlock sponsorship you can now register with Give as You Live Donate, who will collect all your sponsor money, claim the gift aid, and send it all to Unlock on your behalf. This allows you to promote your fundraising for Unlock via social media or by e-mail, and to collect sponsorship from people at a distance who you do not regularly meet up with. It saves you managing a pile of small change or writing a cheque. It also saves Unlock time and money, making your support more valuable to us, because more of it can be channelled straight into our front line work with the Bible amongst the urban poor.

For further details on how to request sponsorship or make a donation go to - unlock-urban.org.uk/support_walk.php

Give as You Live - For Online Shoppers

Would you like to support Unlock every time you shop online at no cost to you and no cost to us? With Give as You Live, thousands of major brands including Play.com, John Lewis and Expedia have signed up to donate a percentage of every purchase you make online to Unlock. The average shopper will raise £2.10 per month through what they already buy online.

Give as You Live is easy to set up and use. Simply visit **Give as You Live** at giveasyoulive.com/join/unlock for full details, try it today and help raise valuable funds for Unlock.

The following are available from unlock-urban.org.uk, or from the Unlock National Office:

- **More copies of this Map Brochure and Sponsor Forms.**
- **Resources to help you promote Unlock's work.**
- **Information about Unlock local projects – real stories of real people.**
- **Unlock resources free to use.**

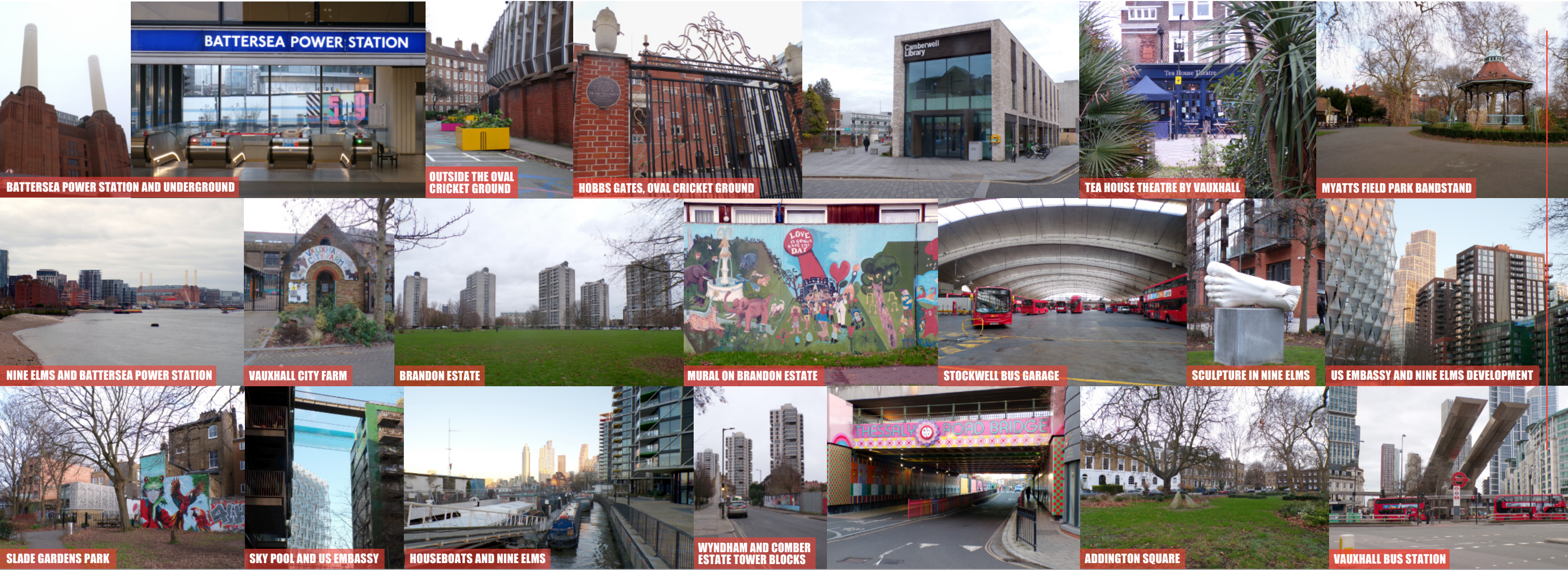
Unlock
15 Station Road
Rotherham
S60 1HN
Tel: **01709 380318**

UNLOCK

LONDON WALK 42

KENNINGTON, CAMBERWELL, NORTH BRIXTON, STOCKWELL AND BATTERSEA

SATURDAY 12 APRIL 2025 9AM TO 5PM



KENNINGTON, CAMBERWELL, NORTH BRIXTON, STOCKWELL AND BATTERSEA

LEGENDARY PLACES

Battersea Power Station has always been an iconic building - from when smoke came out its chimneys in its days as the world's most efficient thermal power station, supplying electricity for much of London including the Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace - to when it stood abandoned and decaying for four decades. As well as featuring on the cover of Pink Floyd's album "Animals" in 1977, the power station can be seen in "Spice Girls – The Movie" whilst scenes from "101 Dalmations" were filmed in the nearby Battersea Park. The power station's design proved popular straightaway, and was described as a "temple of power", ranking with St Paul's Cathedral as a London landmark.

It is one of the largest brick buildings in the world with six million bricks used, and the vast main Boiler House space could accommodate the area of St Paul's within it. It was actually two power stations in one (hence there are two turbine halls): the first was opened in 1935 and the second, delayed by the second world war, in 1955. It was decommissioned in 1983 as it became much cheaper to generate electricity close to the coalfields and then send the electricity along transmission lines rather than ship coal long distances. After many false starts, a consortium of Malaysian companies took ownership and work finally got going in 2013 on the redevelopment which, amongst other requirements, needed another 1.75 million bricks.

Kennington Oval

Home to Surrey Cricket Club and a regular venue for England test matches. **The Oval** hosted the first Test match in England in 1880; England won, but two years later Australia did. After the match the stumps were burned, and "The Ashes" are the result. In 1868 it staged the first ever match played in England by a foreign touring team, the Aborigines.

The Oval hosted the first international football match between England and Scotland in 1870. Two years later it was the venue for the first FA Cup final, and it was played annually there until 1892. The gasholders just outside the ground were started in 1847 and were the largest in the world. They have become an integral part of The Oval's landscape, often mentioned by match commentators along with the passing red buses. The main gasholder was given protected status in 2016 as a historically important industrial structure, and currently is being 'converted' into an apartment block.

COMMONS AND PARKS

Until the early 19th century the area of this year's walk had some small villages, but was mostly countryside with farms supplying London.

Kennington Common was grazing land but had varied other uses. It was a place of execution, where in 1746 many leaders of the Jacobite rebellion were hung, drawn and quartered. In 1739, the Methodists John Wesley and George

Whitefield preached to about 30,000 people. In April 1848, there was a Chartist rally of 15-300,000 people (numbers varied depending on reporters' views!), who then marched to Parliament to present their mass petition calling for the vote for the common man and other reforms.

Camberwell was an ancient parish in the county of Surrey and is mentioned in the Domesday Book. It formally became part of London in 1900 with the creation of the Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell, but the extensive parish was previously governed from 1674 by an administrative parish vestry. **Camberwell Green** was ancient common land bought by the Vestry in the late 19th century to protect it from development. The village green hosted an annual fair from 1279 to 1855. The Green was also the starting point for many CND marches in the 1950's, as it was close to central London, had good transport links - and public toilets.

Patrick Abercrombie was a senior architect and town planner and in 1943, with the damage from the Blitz all around, he created a plan for rebuilding London. The less said about his ideas for transport the better, as he wanted to bulldoze many untouched homes to create new roads, but his idea of using bombed areas for the creation of new inner-city parks in what had been crowded residential areas with no green space was an excellent one, and both **Burgess Park** and **Larkhall Park** were created as a result.

Our walk passes through the small park of **Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens**, part of which hosts Vauxhall City Farm. The small park was created following slum clearance in late twentieth century but from 1661 to 1859 it was the site of a Vauxhall Gardens, one of the leading venues for public entertainment in London. Private pleasure gardens attached to noble houses and royal courts have a long history, but this may well have been the first commercial pleasure garden in Europe.

Entertainment at the Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens included dancing, eating, drinking, balloon flights, circus acts, firework displays, magnificent illuminations and lots of music. Handel was the resident musician and performed 'gigs' there throughout the early 1700s.

The area is still a centre for nightlife, in the summer the park hosts outdoor karaoke and movie screenings and it's busy all year round in the local street-food stalls, 'pub' theatres, bars and clubs, including the historic Royal Vauxhall Tavern which is noted for being London's oldest gay entertainment venue and has been awarded Grade II listed status.

TRANSPORT AND TRAVEL

What's in a name?

One visitor to the **Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens** was an English theatre manager called Michael Maddox. He had also managed theatres in Russia and saw a business opportunity, so in the

1780s he opened a pleasure garden at Pavlovsk, close to St Petersburg, called 'Vokzal' after the London gardens. In 1837 the first Russian railway ran from the city to the Pleasure Gardens and the station was called 'Vokzal'. This has since become the Russian for "railway station".

Vauxhall gave its name to one of Britain's great motoring companies. The name dates back to the late 12th century. Fulk le Breant was granted lands by King John and it was his house by the River Thames in London that became known as Fulk's Hall, which was corrupted into Fawkes Hall and eventually Vauxhall. Production at the nearby Vauxhall Iron Works turned from steam engines to cars in 1903, and was so successful that the company relocated to more space out of London.

MORE STATIONS AND BUS GARAGES

Stockwell Bus Garage was built in the early 1950's. There was a severe shortage of steel, so the roof is built of reinforced concrete and when it was opened was the largest unsupported roof span in Europe, capable of housing 200 buses. During construction, the river Effra, which some will remember seeing in Brockwell Park on previous walks, was found to be flowing under the building, so foundations had to be extra deep. It was awarded grade 2 listed status in 1998. In Camberwell we pass two other bus depots.

The **Oval tube station** is one of the oldest deep level stations on the Underground. There has been

a station here since 1890. **Battersea Power Station tube station** is one of London's newest stations and forms part of the northern line extension, along with Nine Elms tube station.

If you are walking along **Camberwell Station Road**, and wondering where the station is, it closed rather over 100 years ago as an economy measure during WW1. It never re-opened for passengers as Camberwell was seen to have excellent bus and tram connections. Every few years there is speculation about re-opening the station, but a recent study concluded that the time saved by Camberwell station users would be more than offset by that lost by those travelling into central London from further afield.

Old Roman roads met at St Mark's by the Oval. Stane Street was the Roman military highway to Chichester and is now the A24 running through Kennington and Clapham, Morden, and on towards Dorking. What is now the A23 running through Brixton towards Croydon, was the Roman road linking London to Brighton.

Nine Elms Road was a route dating back to 1648 through marshland. The name apparently comes from a pub along the lane which had elms growing in front of it. Camberwell New Road was 'new' in 1818 and was laid out to take advantage of the equally new bridge at Vauxhall. It is the longest Georgian road in England.